MARVEL new universe™
$1.25 US
$1.75 CAN
25
NOV
UK 50p
APPROVED BY THE COMICS CODE AUTHORITY

DP 7™

DISPLACED PARANORMALS

THE LAST STAND OF THE SHADOWMAN!™

PLUS: NIGHTMASK™ VS. THE ESPEOPLE!™

RYAN-BULANADI

D.P.7 OUTING

KING SUPERMARKET, SHEBOYGAN, WISCONSIN...

JUNE 2, 1988.

6

GOOD THING THE *WEATHER'S* BEEN SO LOUSY--OUR *STOCKING CAPS* MIGHT'VE *REALLY* STUCK OUT OTHERWISE!

I DON'T KNOW ABOUT THIS, *HEATHER*. SURE HOPE *SCUZZ* KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING! LAST TIME WE TRIED THIS, WE NEARLY GOT *CAUGHT!*

WHEW. I'M GONNA HAVE TO DIG DEEP FOR *THAT* CHUNK O' CHANGE, LADY.

NICE *HAIR*, BY THE WAY.

THAT'LL BE ONE HUNDRED FIFTY-NINE DOLLARS AND SIXTY CENTS...

COME *ON*, SCUZZ--THE LONGER YOU STAND THERE *JAWIN'*, THE LONGER THE STORE'S *CAMERAS* HAVE TO TAKE PICS OF OUR *MUGS!*

GONNA TAKE A *BREAK* AFTER THIS.

HAVE A NICE DAY!
BETTER MAKE IT RAIN--OR SCUZZ'LL BE MAD AT ME LIKE LAST TIME!
THE SIGNAL! GOTTA BLAST THE VID-CAM!
HURRY, SQUIRM--HURRY!
HEY!
I'LL TAKE THAT!
OOOH! WHAT HAPPENED--?
COME BACK HERE, FOUR-EYES!
OH!
EVAN!
DUNNO WHAT KINDA TRICKS YOU'RE PULLIN' BUT THE BOSS OUGHTA PROMOTE ME TO ASSISTANT MANAGER IF I STOP YOU SHOPLIFTERS!
NO! DON'T HIT ME--! SHADOWMAN!
SHADOWMAN--WHAT'RE YOU TALK--EOW!
NICE GOIN', SHAD! C'MON, HELP ME PICK UP THE STUFF I SPILT!

THOUGHT YOU SAID NO ONE'D TRY TO STOP US, SCUZZ.
YOU OKAY, EVAN?
YUP!
LET 'EM TRY--NO ONE'LL SUCCEED! THE ODTEENS RULE!
TWO FOR ONE
STILL NO SIGN OF ANYBODY TRYIN' TO SHAG AFTER US.
HEY, MOTHBALL--DIDN'T I TELL YOU TO STAY IN THE CAR AND KEEP THE ENGINE RUNNIN'?
YEAH, BUT LAST TIME I LET YOU DWEEBS DO THE SHOPPIN' YOU FORGOT TO GET MY COCOA-PUFFS!
WELL, YOU SHOULDA STILL KEPT IT RUNNIN'.
YOU KNOW OLD MAN HARRINGTON'S CRATE-ON-WHEELS DON'T START SO GOOD IN WET WEATHER!
AH, YOU JUST DUNNO ZITS ABOUT CARS!
RRR RRRRRR
KING SUPERMARKET
URRRMM REEEEEEEET
CVS
THOSE KIDS--THERE THEY GO!
I CALLED THE POLICE!
UH-OH!

SCUZZ--
SCUZZ--
THE POLICE--
THEY SAW
US!
SKREEE
RELAX, CRAWLEY--I KNOW THEY SAW US, BUT SEEIN' US AND CATCHIN' US ARE TWO DIFFERENT THINGS.
PLEASE BE CAREFUL, SCUZZ! THE ROADS ARE TERRIBLE!
THAT'LL WORK TO OUR ADVANTAGE, ANNIE-BABY! THIS JALOPY'S STILL GOT SNOW-TIRES ON!
THEY'RE RIGHT ON OUR TAILPIPES, SCUZZ!
WEEOOO WEEEEOOO WEEOOO
DO WHAT HE SAYS, SCUZZ--YOU KEEP DRIVING LIKE A MANIAC AND SOMEONE'LL GET KILLED!
SHUT UP! HOW CAN I DRIVE WITH YOU CRYBABIES SHOUTIN' IN MY EAR?
FUDG
PULL OVER! SLOW DOWN AND PULL OVER!
SCUZZ, HOW 'BOUT WE VOTE ON THIS?
SQREE
WEOOO WEEOOO
WAAAAAH!
SCUZZ, YOU'RE SCARING HEATHER!
ME, TOO!
C'MON, SCUZZ--PULL OVER. LET'S TAKE OUR CHANCES.
YEAH, SCUZZBAG--WE'RE ALL MINORS!
STICK THAT! THOSE COPS LEARN WE'RE PARANORMALS, THEY'LL MOW OUR GRASS BUT GOOD!

I KNOW WHAT I'M DOIN'! YOU GUYS HOLD TIGHT. NOW THAT WE'RE OUTTA TOWN, I'M REALLY GONNA POUR ON THE--
oh--
AIEEEEHHHH!
SQUEEEEE
WHTAM
THTOOM
WEEOOO
DANG FOOL KIDS--!
OH, CRIPES!
SEND FOR AN AMBULANCE, FLOYD-- QUICK!

MAJOR GENERAL TRUSCOTT, JR. MEMORIAL HOSPITAL, GEORGIA...
VITAL SIGNS STILL STABLE, DR. O'BRIEN.
ANOTHER FEW STITCHES SHOULD DO IT. SCISSORS!
WELL... THAT'S ALL I CAN DO.
YOU'VE GOT GOOD HANDS, O'BRIEN. THE WORK YOU DID CLOSING HIS LARGE INTESTINE WAS EXCELLENT.
THANK YOU... SIR.
REALLY TOUCH AND GO FOR A WHILE THERE. LOST A HECKUVA LOT OF BLOOD. ONLY IN THE LAST HALF HOUR OR SO DID I REALLY THINK HE HAD A REAL CHANCE OF MAKING IT...
STILL IFFY AS FAR AS HIS MAKING A FULL RECOVERY...

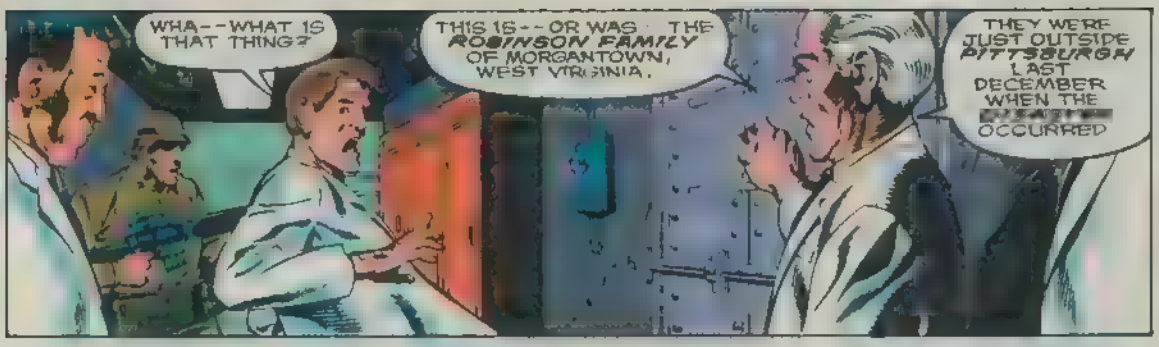
DAVE... WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU, MAN? GUYS WHO BROUGHT YOU IN SAID YOU'D IMPALED YOURSELF ON A STRIP OF METAL WHILE YOU WERE IN SOLITARY CONFINEMENT IN THE HOLE...
AFTER ALL WE'D BEEN THROUGH TOGETHER THE PAST TWO YEARS, I DIDN'T THINK YOU WERE THE SUICIDAL TYPE.
SURE, YOU'D SAID YOU WANTED TO END IT ALL THE NIGHT WE FIRST MET, BUT THAT WAS BECAUSE YOUR BODY HAD GONE OUT OF CONTROL SPROUTING MUSCLES. THAT WOULD'VE BEEN ENOUGH TO SHAKE ANYONE...
BUT AFTER THAT, YOU SEEMED TO ADJUST TO YOUR PARANORMALITY AS WELL AS ANY OF THE REST OF US DID. YOU EVEN LOOKED LIKE YOU ENJOYED YOUR GREAT STRENGTH EVERY NOW AND THEN...
WHAT HAPPENED TO YOU SINCE THE ARMY SEPARATED US TWO MONTHS AGO-- YOU, TO FINISH YOUR SPECIAL POWERS TRAINING... ME, TO COMPLETE MY MEDICAL INTERNSHIP HERE AT THE ARMY HOSPITAL?
HOW COULD THINGS HAVE GOTTEN SO BAD THAT YOU'D GO AND DO SUCH A STUPID, STUPID THING?
BLAST YOU, DAVE!
YOU REALLY LET ME DOWN!
OR IS IT THE OTHER WAY AROUND? I'M YOUR BEST FRIEND. I SHOULD HAVE STOOD BY YOU-- BUT I COULDN'T, THE ARMY WOULDN'T LET ME.
WHAT COULD I DO? NOTHING. NO, I'M NOT GOING TO BLAME MYSELF FOR WHAT YOU DID!

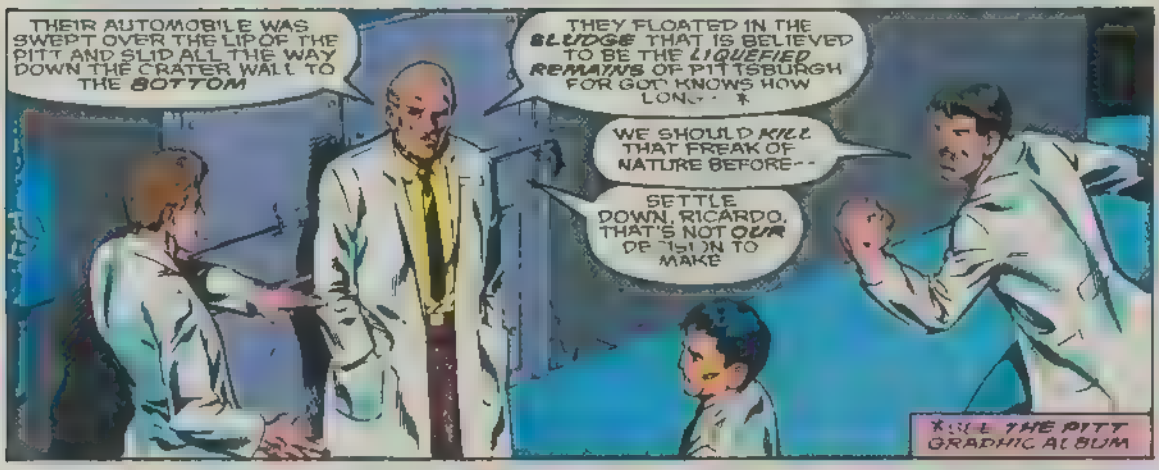
STILL, IF I HADN'T LOST MY PARABILITY I'D'VE BEEN IN SPECIAL POWERS TRAINING WITH YOU...
"MY PARABILITY"... THE ANTIBODIES WERE NEVER REALLY A TRUE PARABILITY--NOT LIKE YOUR STRENGTH OR JEFF'S SPEED... I'M THE ONLY PARANORMAL I'VE MET WHOSE POWER WAS IN SOMEONE ELSE, NOT HIM...
"A LOT OF SOMEBODY ELSES, THE ANTIBODIES WERE. I COULD CALL THEM INTO BEING, BUT I SURE COULDN'T CONTROL THEM ONCE THEY CAME OUT."
NOW IT'S BEEN ALMOST THREE MONTHS SINCE I SAW ANY OF THEM. SOON AS I STARTED BOOT CAMP, THEY JUST STOPPED COMING OUT OF ME. MAYBE IT WAS SOMETHING IN THE INOCULATIONS THEY GAVE ME... I DON'T KNOW.
ONCE I THOUGHT I'D BE HAPPY TO BE RID OF THEM...
...BUT NOW I FEEL... EMPTY.
LIEUTENANT O'BRIEN, COLONEL McINERY WOULD LIKE THE ENTIRE MEDICAL STAFF TO ASSEMBLE IN THE BASEMENT AT ONCE. IT'S URGENT.
WHAT? OH... OKAY.
MEANWHILE, IN WISCONSIN...
HOW MANY BODIES THEY PULL OUT SO FAR?
I COUNTED FIVE.
COULDN'T TELL HOW MANY THERE WERE IN ALL WHEN THEY BUZZED BY US.

AW, SHOOT. THOUGHT THIS WAS THE LAST OF THEM. THINK THEY JUST FOUND SOMEBODY ELSE. MUST'VE GONE THROUGH THE WINDSHIELD.
COUNTY GENERAL'S GONNA BE BUSY TONIGHT.
SHADOWMAN... HURT ALL OVER...
...WHAT HAPPENED? SAW SCUZZ...DRIVE OFF THE ROAD...FELT YOU COME OUT...SURROUND ME...
...THEN ALL BLACK...FELT CRASH...YOU HELD ME...RIGHT, SHADOWMAN?
YOU HURT TOO, SHADOWMAN?
AW, GEEZE -- THIS ONE'S MISSING HIS... HIS...
WHERE YOU GOING, SHAD? DON'T... DON'T LEAVE!
OH, YOU... JUST WANTED TO BE ON THE OUTSIDE... OKAY.

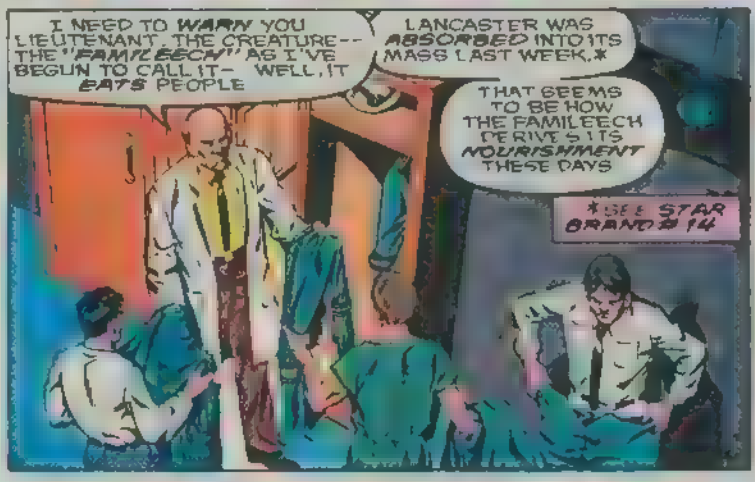
HEY WHAT . . ?
BRRRIIP
WHAT THE . . ?
YOU SEE THAT, CASTIGLIONE ?
I DON'T KNOW WHAT I SAW
HEY THE KID WITH THE GLASSES-- HE'S GONE !
MAJOR GENERAL TRUSCOTT JR MEMORIAL HOSPITAL GEORGIA
YOU ASKED TO SEE THE ENTIRE MEDICAL STAFF COLONEL ? WHERE'S LIEUTENANT LANCASTER ?
HE'S WITH THE NEW PATIENT YOU'LL SEE

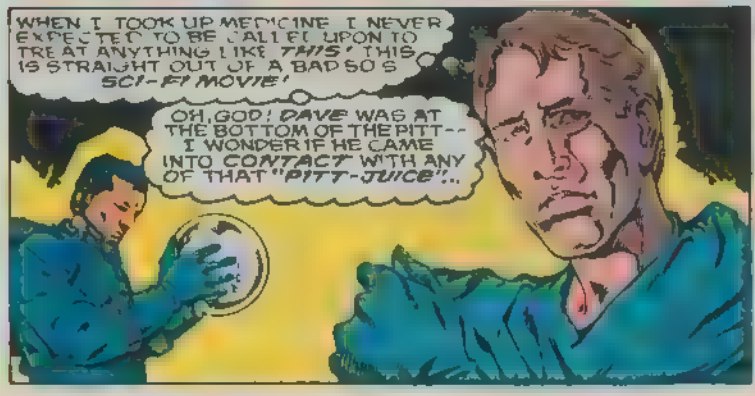
WHO *IS* THE NEW PATIENT, COLONEL? AND WHY IS HE BEING KEPT DOWN HERE IN THE *BASEMENT*?
THIS IS THE ONLY PLACE WE COULD MAKE *SECURE* ENOUGH TO HOLD IT.
O'BRIEN
IT?
I SUGGEST YOU *BRACE* YOURSELF, LIEUTENANT YOU MAY THINK YOU'VE SEEN *PARANORMAL* BEFORE
BUT BELIEVE ME YOU *HAVEN'T*.
WHAT IN THE--
GOOD LORD!
HUNNNNNGRY! NEED *FOOD*! WANT YOUR BODIES...
WHTAANK

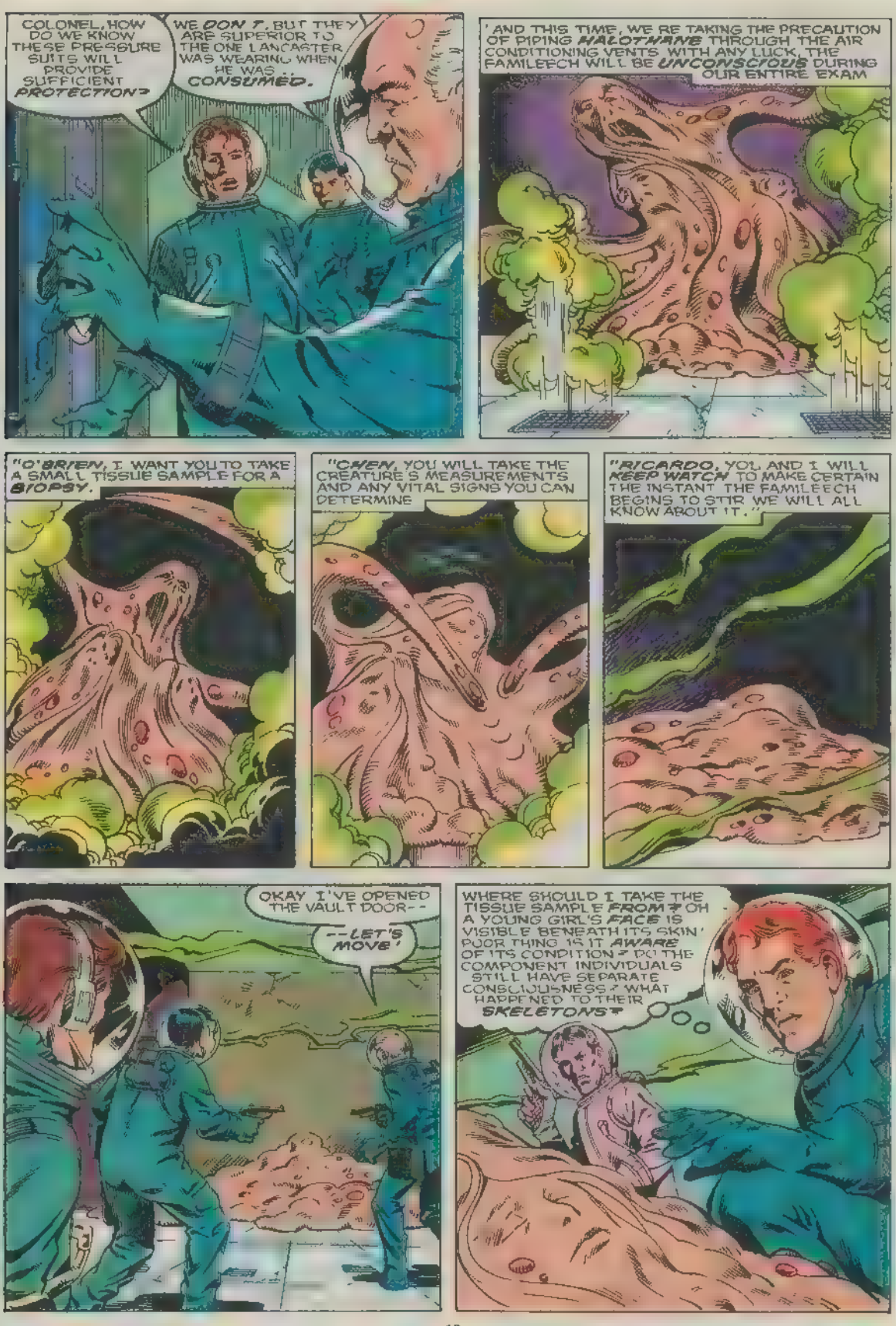

WHA--WHAT IS THAT THING?
THIS IS--OR WAS--THE ROBINSON FAMILY OF MORGANTOWN, WEST VIRGINIA.
THEY WERE JUST OUTSIDE PITTSBURGH LAST DECEMBER WHEN THE [redacted] OCCURRED


THEIR AUTOMOBILE WAS SWEPT OVER THE LIP OF THE PITT AND SLID ALL THE WAY DOWN THE CRATER WALL TO THE BOTTOM
THEY FLOATED IN THE SLUDGE THAT IS BELIEVED TO BE THE LIQUEFIED REMAINS OF PITTSBURGH FOR GOD KNOWS HOW LONG.*
WE SHOULD KILL THAT FREAK OF NATURE BEFORE--
SETTLE DOWN, RICARDO. THAT'S NOT OUR DECISION TO MAKE
*SEE THE PITT GRAPHIC ALBUM

ANYWAY, APPARENTLY AS A RESULT OF THEIR EXPOSURE TO THIS "PITT-JUICE," THEIR BODIES HAVE BONDED TOGETHER ON THE CELLULAR LEVEL
THAT'S AWFUL! WHAT CAN BE DONE FOR THEM?
THAT'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO DETERMINE.


I NEED TO WARN YOU LIEUTENANT, THE CREATURE--THE "FAMILEECH" AS I'VE BEGUN TO CALL IT--WELL, IT EATS PEOPLE
LANCASTER WAS ABSORBED INTO ITS MASS LAST WEEK.*
THAT SEEMS TO BE HOW THE FAMILEECH DERIVES ITS NOURISHMENT THESE DAYS
*SEE STAR BRAND #14


WHEN I TOOK UP MEDICINE I NEVER EXPECTED TO BE CALLED UPON TO TREAT ANYTHING LIKE THIS! THIS IS STRAIGHT OUT OF A BAD 50'S SCI-FI MOVIE!
OH, GOD! DAVE WAS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PITT--I WONDER IF HE CAME INTO CONTACT WITH ANY OF THAT "PITT-JUICE"...


COLONEL, HOW DO WE KNOW THESE PRESSURE SUITS WILL PROVIDE SUFFICIENT PROTECTION?
WE DON'T. BUT THEY ARE SUPERIOR TO THE ONE LANCASTER WAS WEARING WHEN HE WAS CONSUMED.
'AND THIS TIME, WE'RE TAKING THE PRECAUTION OF PIPING HALOTHANE THROUGH THE AIR CONDITIONING VENTS. WITH ANY LUCK, THE FAMILEECH WILL BE UNCONSCIOUS DURING OUR ENTIRE EXAM.
"O'BRIEN, I WANT YOU TO TAKE A SMALL TISSUE SAMPLE FOR A BIOPSY.
"CHEN, YOU WILL TAKE THE CREATURE'S MEASUREMENTS AND ANY VITAL SIGNS YOU CAN DETERMINE.
"RICARDO, YOU AND I WILL KEEP WATCH TO MAKE CERTAIN THE INSTANT THE FAMILEECH BEGINS TO STIR WE WILL ALL KNOW ABOUT IT."
OKAY I'VE OPENED THE VAULT DOOR--
--LET'S MOVE!
WHERE SHOULD I TAKE THE TISSUE SAMPLE FROM? OH A YOUNG GIRL'S FACE IS VISIBLE BENEATH ITS SKIN! POOR THING IS IT AWARE OF ITS CONDITION? DO THE COMPONENT INDIVIDUALS STILL HAVE SEPARATE CONSCIOUSNESS? WHAT HAPPENED TO THEIR SKELETONS?

DAWN THE NEXT DAY.
!!!
CONDITION'S BEEN STABLE THROUGH THE NIGHT DOCTOR
GOOD GET ME SOME BETADINE AND 4x4's I WANT TO EXAMINE THE WOUND
ALSO WANT TO CHECK EVERY INCH OF DAVE'S SKIN-- SEE IF THERE'S ANY SIGN OF PITT-RELATED INFECTION!
WHOA!
AIEEH!
D-D DOCTOR WHAT--?
EASY NURSE HEWITT--
I'VE SEEN CREATURES LIKE THIS BEFORE I DON'T THINK HE'LL
WHAT'S HE DOING?
HE HAD A BOY INSIDE HIM!
THE BOY'S HEAD IS CAKED WITH BLOOD, THE WAY THE THING IS [illegible]ING--?

YOU WANT ME TO *EXAMINE* THE BOY, IS THAT--

HEY, I'VE *SEEN* HIM BEFORE--AT THE CLINIC FOR PARANORMAL RESEARCH!

HIS NAME'S *EVAN* SOMETHING

WHAT--

"*IMAGES* IMPRESSIONS- FLOODING MY BRAIN THIS CREATURE IS JUST LIKE MY *ANTIBODIES*-- ABLE TO TRANSFER INFORMATION BY *TOUCH!*

"I SEE THE BOY- *EVAN HUEBNER*--ENTERING THE STRANGE ANTIBODY... FLYING ABOUT *INSIDE* HIM...

'EVAN IS TELLING HIM HOW MUCH HE *LOVES* HIM.

"WAIT--THERE'S *DAVE*, AND *SCUZZ*, AND SOME OTHER CLINIC KIDS--DAVE'S TELLING THEM ABOUT HOW WE'RE IN THE ARMY. THIS MUST HAVE BEEN A FEW MONTHS BACK.

UNLESS-- *NO!*

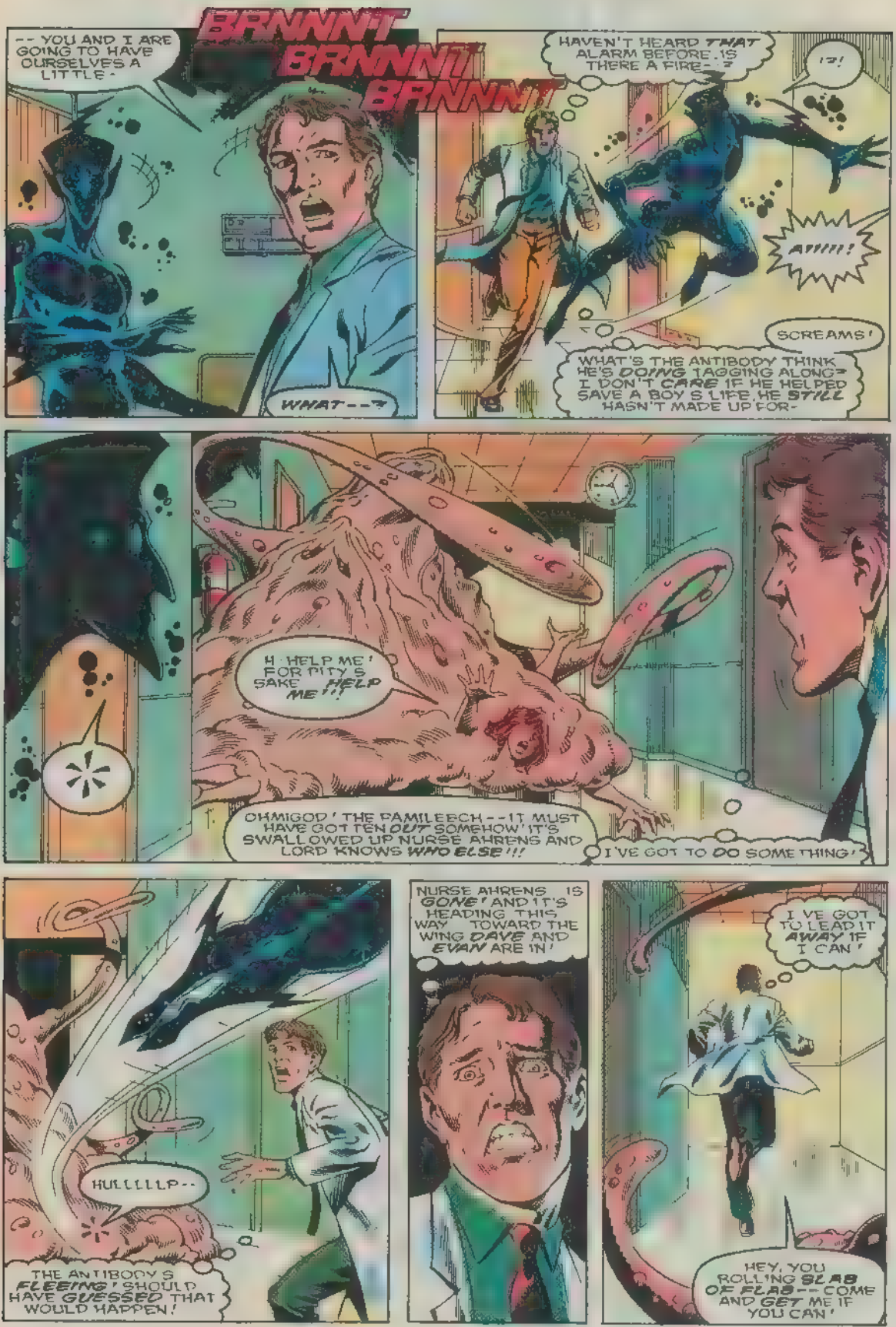
I *CREATED* YOU, DIDN'T I? YOU'RE THE *RENEGADE ANTIBODY* I ONCE CAST OUT! BUT--BUT HOW COME YOU LOOK SO *DIFFERENT*--?

"AND THEN THERE'S A *SPEEDING CAR* GOING OFF THE ROAD--EVAN'S INSIDE

"THEN *THAT'S* WHAT HAPPENED TO HIM. HE WAS IN A *CAR ACCIDENT* AND THIS CREATURE DECIDED TO BRING HIM ALL THIS WAY SO I COULD DOCTOR HIM.

'BUT WHY *ME*? WHY-

I'LL DEAL WITH YOU LATER. LET ME SEE TO THE BOY
NURSE--BANDAGES AND ANTISEPTIC.
" A YEAR AGO AT THE CLINIC, I'D CREATED FIVE ANTI-BODIES AT A TIME..
EACH OF THEM HAD A SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT PERSONALITY... THE AMOUNT OF CONTROL I HAD OVER EACH OF THEM VARIED...
"ONE OF THEM GOT TOTALLY AWAY FROM ME AND STRANGLED A MAN. ONE OF THE CLINIC'S THERAPISTS
THE MAN HE KILLED WAS A DANGEROUS PSYCHOPATH--BUT THAT DIDN'T MAKE IT OKAY TO KILL HIM.
I DISOWNED THE KILLER ANTIBODY--DENIED HIM ACCESS TO MY HOST BODY
WHEN I DIDN'T SEE HIM AGAIN, I ASSUMED HE'D WITHERED UP AND DIED
BUT APPARENTLY EVAN HERE BE-AME IT'S NEW HOST BODY!
I DIDN'T KNOW THAT WAS POSSIBLE. I THOUGHT I WAS THE ONLY HUMAN BEING WHO COULD SUSTAIN THEIR WEIRD LIVES
HE'S SUFFERED HEAD TRAUMA, BUT ALL HIS VITAL SIGNS LOOK GOOD
NOW THEN RENEGADE--


-- YOU AND I ARE GOING TO HAVE OURSELVES A LITTLE-
BRNNNT BRNNNT BRNNNT
WHAT--?
HAVEN'T HEARD THAT ALARM BEFORE. IS THERE A FIRE--?
!?!
AYYYY!
SCREAMS!
WHAT'S THE ANTIBODY THINK HE'S DOING TAGGING ALONG? I DON'T CARE IF HE HELPED SAVE A BOY'S LIFE, HE STILL HASN'T MADE UP FOR-
H HELP ME! FOR PITY'S SAKE HELP ME!!!
OHMIGOD! THE PAMILEECH--IT MUST HAVE GOT TEN OUT SOMEHOW! IT'S SWALLOWED UP NURSE AHRENS AND LORD KNOWS WHO ELSE!!!
I'VE GOT TO DO SOMETHING!
HULLLLLP--
THE ANTIBODY'S FLEEING! SHOULD HAVE GUESSED THAT WOULD HAPPEN!
NURSE AHRENS IS GONE! AND IT'S HEADING THIS WAY TOWARD THE WING DAVE AND EVAN ARE IN!
I'VE GOT TO LEAD IT AWAY IF I CAN!
HEY, YOU ROLLING SLAB OF FLAB-- COME AND GET ME IF YOU CAN!

SMEK
SLERRP
TH-THE DOOR! I CAN'T OPEN THE STINKING DOOR!
FIRE DOOR
I'M DEAD THAT THING IS GOING TO SUCK ME IN JUST LIKE
THE ANTIBODY! IT CAME BACK--!
WHAT? WHAT--? WHY ARE YOU LOOKING AT ME LIKE THAT?
DON'T JUST STAND THERE DO--
--SOMETHING--?!?

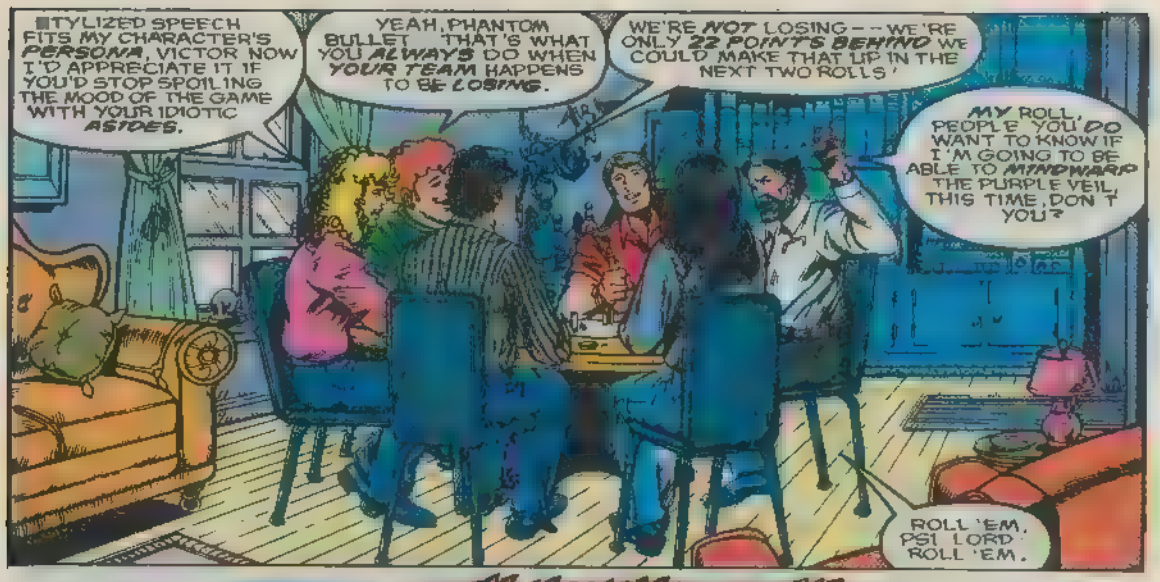
I-I CAN'T BELIEVE THIS! THE ANTIBODY HAS COMPLETELY SURROUNDED ME, BUT I CAN STILL SEE--!
WHY? WHY IS IT DOING THIS FOR ME? DOESN'T MATTER- I'M MAKING US BOTH MOVE NOW-
--AND I'M GOING TO FLY US RIGHT OVER THE TOP OF THAT BIOMORPHIC BLOB!
WHA--? I CAN'T STAY ALOFT!
EITHER I'M TOO HEAVY, OR THE RENEGADE'S TOO WEAK!
WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE? EITHER WAY I'M
HE LEFT ME IT LOOKS LIKE-
COME, FOODMEN-- COME TO US!
YES, HE'S TRYING TO BATTLE THAT THING!
OH, NO--IT-- IT TORE HIM APART!

SLRRP
NNNGH!
WANT YOU--
INSIDE!
THIS IS IT. MY LUCK'S RUN OUT. THERE'S NOBODY LEFT TO SAVE ME
OH, HEAVENLY FATHER - I DON'T WANT TO DIE, PLEASE PLEASE DON'T LET ME DIE LIKE THIS!
TRAPPED, FRIGHTENED, ALONE--!
HUH? AN ANTIBODY
COMING OUT OF ME!
TWO OF THEM!
NO--FOUR!
IT'S NO USE, GUYS--THAT THING'S STRONGER THAN ANY OF US!
BUT WHAT IF---?

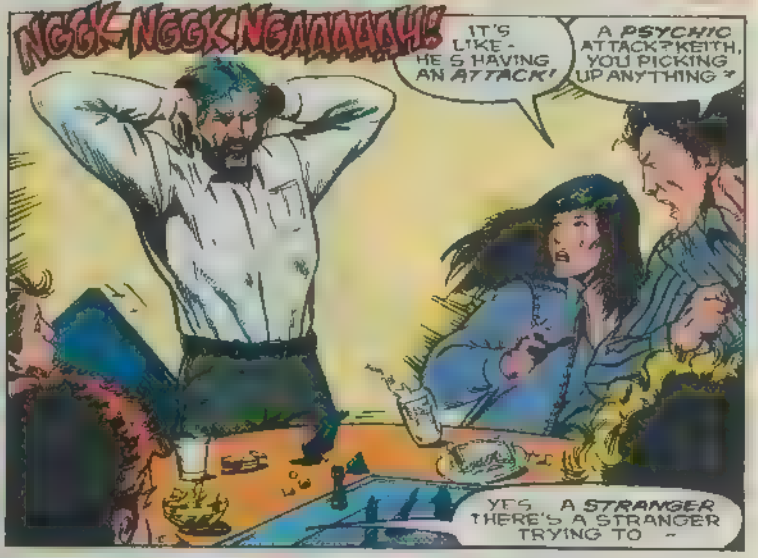
EAAUGH!
I'M PROTECTED BY FOUR LAYERS OF ANTIBODIES! I FEEL LIKE I HAVE ALL THEIR STRENGTH COMBINED!
OKAY, FAMILEECH - YOU'VE JUST LOST YOUR NEXT MEAL TICKET!
SPLOOSH
I KNOW YOU'RE NOT TO BLAME FOR YOUR DISGUSTING APPETITE
BUT IT'S GOT TO STOP!
AND I'M THE ONE WHO'S GOING TO STOP YOU!
SPLOK
ME DR RANDY O'BRIEN--
MAKER OF ANTIBODIES!
WEARER OF ANTIBODIES!

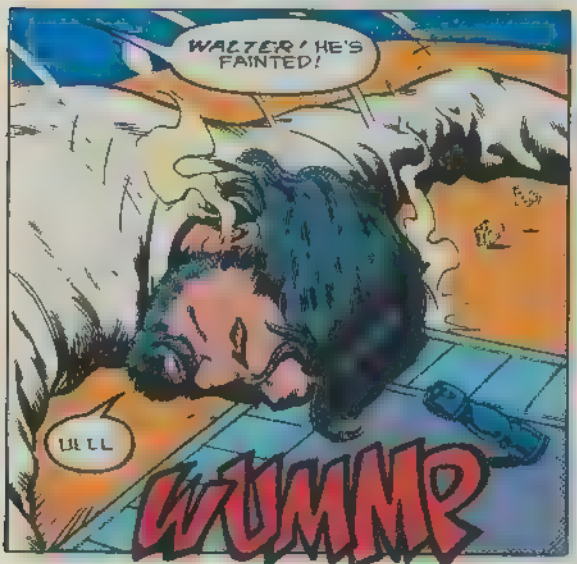
NNNGH
KTAMM
I DID IT! WOW! I BEAT THAT HORRIBLE THING INTO SUBMISSION WITH MY OWN TWO HANDS! I FEEL SO- SO ALIVE!
I JUST HOPE THESE GUYS COME OFF WHEN I--
WHOA! THAT STUNT MUST'VE TAKEN A LOT OUT OF THEM THE WAY THEY'RE SCRAMBLING TO GET BACK INSIDE ME TO "RECHARGE".
THIS IS SO INCREDIBLE! WHY DIDN'T I EVER THINK OF TRYING THIS BEFORE? IF THE RENEGADE HADN'T SHOWN ME THAT IT WAS POSSIBLE, WOULD I EVER THOUGHT TO TRY SUCH A THING?
KIND OF STRANGE... THE KILLER ANTIBODY GIVING ME A NEW LEASE ON LIFE
THE END.

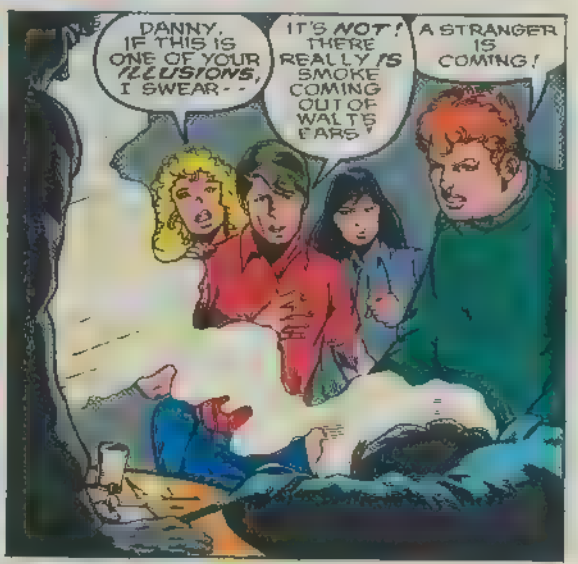
SOMEWHERE IN THE WILDS OF NORTHERN WISCONSIN LIVE SIX PARANORMALS POSSESSING PHENOMENAL POWERS OF THE MIND SEQUESTERED AWAY FROM THE REST OF MANKIND IN A WELL ING BY ALIEN OUTSIDE HUMAN PERCEPTION THEY LEAD NORMAL LIVES SPENT THEIR DAYS IN COMMUNAL LABORS AND THEIR NIGHTS IN MENTAL WARFARE THEY ARE THE
ESPEOPLE
SURRENDER PSI LORD! I AM MORE THAN A MATCH FOR YOUR MIND-WARPING TRICKS!
THAT'S WHAT YOU SAID LAST TIME BEFORE I BEAT YOU, PURPLE VEIL!
HELP ME SUPERNATURAL! THE APPARITION'S GOT ME!
NIGHT OF THE MASK
RK
WALD
TORY
JAVIER SALTARES ART
CHIANG WRIGHT LETTERS COLORS
CAN'T, TRANCER! I HAVE MY HANDS FULL DODGING PINK PHANTOM BULLETS BARRAGE
AW COME ON YOU GUYS DO YOU HAVE TO CALL EACH OTHER BY NAME EVERY TIME ANYONE MAKES A MOVE?


■TYLIZED SPEECH FITS MY CHARACTER'S *PERSONA*, VICTOR NOW I'D APPRECIATE IT IF YOU'D STOP SPOILING THE MOOD OF THE GAME WITH YOUR IDIOTIC *ASIDES*.
YEAH, PHANTOM BULLET. THAT'S WHAT YOU *ALWAYS* DO WHEN *YOUR TEAM* HAPPENS TO BE *LOSING*.
WE'RE *NOT* LOSING -- WE'RE ONLY *22 POINTS BEHIND* WE COULD MAKE THAT UP IN THE NEXT TWO ROLLS!
MY ROLL, PEOPLE. YOU *DO* WANT TO KNOW IF I'M GOING TO BE ABLE TO *MINDWARP* THE PURPLE VEIL, THIS TIME, DON'T YOU?
ROLL 'EM, PSI LORD. ROLL 'EM.

OKAY COME ON. ALL I NEED IS *EIGHT*. COME ON. EIGHHH *UHHHH!*


NGGK-NGGK NGAAAAAH!
IT'S LIKE - HE'S HAVING AN *ATTACK!*
A *PSYCHIC* ATTACK? KEITH, YOU PICKING UP ANYTHING?
YES. A *STRANGER* THERE'S A STRANGER TRYING TO -


WALTER! HE'S FAINTED!
UH LL
WUMMP


DANNY. IF THIS IS ONE OF YOUR *ILLUSIONS*, I SWEAR--
IT'S *NOT!* THERE REALLY *IS* SMOKE COMING OUT OF WALT'S EARS!
A STRANGER IS COMING!

NGGGHHH!
SOMEBODY'S MATERIALIZING IN THE HAZE! TELEPORTATION--?
WHAT'S WITH THAT SEXY BODYSUIT HE'S WEARING?
HE'S ABOUT TO COME TO! WHAT--WHAT SHOULD WE DO? WE CAN'T LET ANYONE LEARN ABOUT US!
DAN--CLOAK US, QUICK!
YOU HAVE VIOLATED THE SANCTUM OF THE ESPEOPLE, STRANGER. STATE YOUR NAME AND BUSINESS HERE AT ONCE--
UH, WHERE--? WHO--
I SENSE WALT WILL BE OKAY ONCE HE RESTS A BIT.
I...I CALL MYSELF NIGHTMASK AND--
--I MUST BE IN SOMEBODY'S DREAM-WORLD, BUT WHOSE? I CAN'T REMEMBER--
ONE TOUCH AND I SHALL KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT YOU...NIGHTMASK.
SORRY, LARDO--I MAKE IT A RULE NOT TO LET GUYS TOUCH ME.
HEY!

DON'T KNOW WHO THESE SELF-STYLED ESPEOPLE ARE, BUT I IMAGINE THEY'RE SOMEBODY'S DREAM-SELVES EVEN AS I AM.
NO TELLING WHAT THE "RULES" OF THIS DREAM-WORLD ARE, SO I'D BETTER JUST TAKE A POWDER TILL I CAN SCOPE 'EM OUT!
YEOWW! WHERE'D HE--
GO NO FURTHER! SO COMMANDS THE APPARITION!
THOSE DREAM-BEINGS SEEM TO HAVE EVEN GREATER POWERS THAN I DO!
HOPE YA KNOW HOW TO DANCE, FANCY-PANTS!
SPOOO
SPOOM
SPOOM!
HE'S GOING TO WRECK THE WHOLE HOUSE TRYING TO ESCAPE US! SOMEONE'S GOT TO SUBDUE HIM--
--AND IT MAY AS WELL BE ME!
ALL THE NATURAL FORCES ARE MINE TO COMMAND, HANDSOME--INCLUDING THE WIND!
CALL ME THE SUPERNATURAL, OKAY?
I DON'T GET IT. IN MOST DREAMS, I'M THE ONE WHO CAN DO WHATEVER I IMAGINE MYSELF DOING. BUT HERE, THESE JOKERS CAN DO ALL SORTS OF WILD THINGS AND I CAN DO ZIP!

HE'S DOWN! TRANCER--PROBE HIM QUICK!
WE MUST KNOW WHERE HE CAME FROM--HOW HE GOT HERE--WHAT HE DID TO WAL--UH, PSI-LORD!
HE WON'T ELUDE ME THIS TIME, VEIL!
UNH. GOT TO GET UP--!
WHAM
RELAX, NIGHTMASK--THIS WON'T HURT A BIT.
IMAGES...FLOODING IN... HIS MIND TO MINE!
"HIS NAME'S KEITH--SAME AS MINE--KEITH REMSEN. HE'S A PARANORMAL LIKE US... POWER TO PROJECT HIS CONSCIOUSNESS INTO OTHER PEOPLE'S DREAMS...
"HE CAME UPON A CUBE--WENT IN*--AND THE NEXT THING HE KNEW HE WAS HERE!
"HE WAS IN THE DREAMS OF--HIM! DAVID LANDERS--THE ONLY OTHER GUY TO LEARN OF OUR EXISTENCE!*
*LAST ISSUE.
"BUT HOW WAS THAT POSSIBLE? HE ENTERS DREAMS BY HIS MIND ONLY. HIS BODY REMAINS BEHIND SLEEPING!"
*WAY BACK IN ISSUE #11.

HE'S REALLY IN THE DARK ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED--THINKS HE'S DREAMING. THE WAY I FIGURE, THAT "MENTAL BLOCK" HE HIT IN LANDERS'S BRAIN WAS THE PSYCHIC LOCK WALT INSTALLED TO KEEP LANDERS'S HEAD FROM BEING TAMPERED WITH AND OUR EXISTENCE DISCOVERED.
YES, IN FACT HE'S--
THEN THAT'S WHY WALT--PSI-LORD--WAS AFFECTED, IS HE GOING TO RECOVER SOON OR--?
SORRY FOR THE SCARE, PEOPLE. BUT AFTER NIGHTMASK USED ME AS A PORTAL, I TOOK THE OPPORTUNITY TO MENTALLY TRAVEL BACK TO HIS ENTRANCE-POINT, DAVE LANDERS'S BRAIN, TO SEE WHAT'S WHAT.
LANDERS IS IN SORRY SHAPE--HE EVEN MADE A SUICIDE ATTEMPT. WORSE, HIS PREDICAMENT IS PARTIALLY MY FAULT--THE MIND-LOCK I INSTALLED GAVE ANOTHER PARANORMAL A ROUGH TIME.
LANDERS TOOK THE BLAME AND WAS MADE TO SUFFER FOR IT.
SO WHAT DO WE DO WITH THIS NIGHTMASK?
HE KNOWS WE'RE DRAFT EVADERS. I'LL HAVE TO WIPE HIS MIND OF OUR EXISTENCE EVEN AS I DID TO LANDERS.
YOU KNOW, GUYS, I'VE BEEN THINKING. MAYBE WE SHOULD STOP HIDING OUT WHILE THE REST OF THE WORLD GOES TO POT. MAYBE WE'D BETTER GET INVOLVED...USE OUR GIFTS TO DO WHAT WE CAN BEFORE THE WORLD TOTALLY FALLS APART. WELL? WHAT DO THE REST OF YOU THINK?
"NAH."
LATER...
WHAT HAPPENED TO ME? HOW DID I GET HERE? AM I DREAMING OR AWAKE?
IF I AM AWAKE, THEN I MUST HAVE BEEN SLEEPWALKING.
NIGHTMASK'S ADVENTURE CONTINUES IN JUSTICE #25.